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FRANCE.—La Chafne du Mont Blanc. Nouvelle édition de 1906 en 4 feuilles. (1) Massif de Trélatête. Scale, 1:50,000 or 0.7 statute mile to an inch. Supplement to the Yearbook of the Swiss Alpine Club, Vol. XLIII., Bern, 1908.

Contours with 50 meters intervals and light and shade express relief forms clearly.

SWITZERLAND.—Karte zur Reise und die Eisgebirge des Kantons Bern. Supplement to the Yearbook of the Swiss Alpine Club, Vol. XLIII., Bern, 1908.

The map is reproduced from the Zschokke-Meyerschen Reisebericht, Aarau, 1813. It shows the route of the Messrs. Meyer, in 1811 and 1812, in the Bernese Alps. They traversed the whole length of many of the glaciers in this region, besides ascending the Jungfrau and other mountains.

SWITZERLAND.—Carte du Valais et du Tessin pour Touristes. Scale, 1:300,000 or 4.73 statute miles to an inch. With 4 Insets, scale, 1:75,000 or 1.18 statute mile to an inch. By J. Frey. Geographischer Karten-Verlag Bern, 1908. (Price, paper, frs. 3.50.)

One of the superior tourist maps issued by Kümmerly & Frey & A. Francke. Contours, light, and shade are skillfully used to produce the effect of relief without sacrifice of scientific accuracy. A large variety of information is clearly expressed. The contour interval is 300 meters and the map is based upon the Government official maps in 1:25,000 and 1:50,000.

SWITZERLAND.—Orientierungskarte zu den Profilen und Trogrändern im Rhonegebiet. Scale, 1:250,000 or 3.95 statute miles to an inch. Von Hans Hess. *Zeits. f. Gletscherkunde*, Vol. II., No. 5, Berlin, 1908.

Supplements a paper: "Alte Talböden im Rhonegebiet," by Mr. Hess. Water partings, profiles, etc., are imposed in red upon the Swiss topographic map of this region.

OCEANIA.

CAROLINE ISLANDS.—Der Taifun in den Karolinen 27 bis 29 März 1907. Scale, 1:4,000,000 or 63.1 statute miles to an inch. Von C. Jeschke. *Petermanns Mitt.*, No. 6, Gotha, 1908.

Traces the route of this destructive typhoon and indicates the islands that were damaged or destroyed. Supplements an article on the typhoon by Captain Jeschke.

BOOK NOTICES.

Original Narratives of Early American History. The Northmen, Columbus and Cabot, 985-1503. With Maps and a Facsimile Reproduction. Charles Scribner's Sons, New York, 1906-1907.

Volume I contains:

First, The Voyages of the Northmen, edited by Professor Julius E. Olson. A fairly critical, and therefore welcome, review of the early sailings of the Northmen to the North-American coast. Nova Scotia is the region looked upon as most likely to correspond to Vinland. We may perhaps miss, in Prof. Olson's

mention of sources, all allusion to the late work done by the Jesuit Father Fischer on the subject.

Second, *The Voyages of Columbus and of John Cabot*, edited by Professor Edward Gaylord Bourne.

The collection, edited by Prof. Bourne with his usual ability, comprises good translations of the articles of agreement between the Catholic Kings and Columbus (April 17th, 1492), of the Title granted to Columbus of "Admiral, Vice-roy and Governor of the Islands and Mainland that may be discovered"—(April 30th, 1492)—the (anonymous) Journal of the first voyage of Columbus, said to be in the handwriting of Las Casas.—Columbus' letter to Luis de Santangel on his first voyage (dated 15th of February, 1493, with postscript of March 14th).—The letter of Columbus to the King and Queen, without date.—The letter of Dr. Chanca, on the second voyage (no date).—Narrative of the third Voyage of Columbus, from Las Casas, "Historia de las Indias".—Letter of Columbus to the Nurse of Prince John (of the year 1500 when on his return to Spain).—Letter of Columbus on the fourth Voyage. (July 7th, 1503.) By publishing these documents together, Prof. Bourne has rendered easily accessible to the English reading public Columbian sources of importance, less known than the reports by the Admiral.

In the few pages devoted to the Voyages of John Cabot, documents are placed within reach of the reader, that otherwise would be of difficult access.

A map of the voyages of Columbus and a reproduction of the Cantino map of 1502, as well as of the first page of Columbus' letter of 1493 printed in Spanish, illustrate the book.

Volume II is devoted to "Spanish Explorers in the Southern United States" and contains the translations of:

The Narrative of Cabeza de Vaca.—Narrative of the Expedition of Hernando de Soto, by the Gentleman of Elvas.—Narrative of the Expedition of Coronado, by Castañeda.

This volume is accompanied by a fac-simile of the title-page of Cabeza de Vaca's report, printed in 1542, a contemporaneous map of the wanderings of de Soto, and a modern one of Coronado's march.

AN APOLOGY.—Almost complete blindness, and consequent inability to consult documentary material, were the cause of an error in our review of the "Coleccion de Libros y Documentos," edited by Señor Serrano y Sanz (BULLETIN, May, 1908, pp. 315-317). We stated that the manuscript of the oydor Zurita, which he announces as one of his next issues, had already been printed. Such is not the case; it will be published for the first time by Sr. Serrano y Sanz, and we gladly make this correction, with sincere regret for the error.

A. F. B.

Landeskunde und Wirtschaftsgeographie des Festlandes Australien. Von Dr. Kurt Hassert. (Sammlung Göschen.) 184 pp., 8 Photographic Illustrations, 6 Diagrams, and a Map. J. G. Göschen'sche Verlags-handlung, Leipzig, 1907. (Price, 80 pf.)

Probably the best compendium yet made of the geography, industries, and commerce of the Commonwealth of Australia. Dr. Hassert is a well-known authority on anthro-po-geography. Thirty pages are given to the physiography and climate of Australia; twenty-five pages to the flora and fauna; thirteen pages to the aboriginal, and eighteen to the immigration, population. The resources, industries, trade and communications fill fifty-seven pages and the volume closes with general considerations on the Commonwealth and its several States.